

Specter	Sununu	Voinovich
Stevens	Talent	Warner

NAYS—32

Akaka	Dodd	Leahy
Bayh	Dorgan	Levin
Biden	Durbin	McCain
Bingaman	Feingold	Mikulski
Boxer	Feinstein	Murray
Byrd	Graham (FL)	Reed
Cantwell	Harkin	Reid
Clinton	Jeffords	Schumer
Conrad	Kennedy	Stabenow
Corzine	Kohl	Wyden
Dayton	Lautenberg	

NOT VOTING—7

Bunning	Lieberman	Thomas
Edwards	McConnell	
Kerry	Nelson (FL)	

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. SHELBY. Mr. President, I would like to take a few moments to thank some of the staff who did outstanding work on the Banking Committee—Kathy Casey, chief of staff of the Banking Committee; Doug Nappi, our general counsel; Mark Oesterle, one of our counsel.

I also thank some of the Democratic staff who worked with us on this: Steve Harris, who is Democratic chief of staff; Marty Gruenberg; Lynsey Graham Rea, and Dean Shahinian. They have all worked together in a bipartisan fashion. I believe that is why this legislation was brought out of the committee unanimously and we will be able to pass it, because we had a lot of input from Members and committee staff on both sides of the aisle. It makes a difference.

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. SHELBY. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maryland is recognized.

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. President, I echo the chairman in expressing my deep appreciation to the staff people he enumerated: Kathy Casey, Doug Nappi, and Mark Oesterle on the Republican side, and Steve Harris, Lynsey Graham, Dean Shahinian, and Marty Gruenberg on the Democratic side.

We are fortunate in the Banking Committee that we have a very committed, able, dedicated staff on both sides of the aisle. Furthermore, they have been able to work with one another in a very productive and cooperative fashion. The chairman and I are keenly aware of the fact of how much we rely upon them, and we want them to know how much we appreciate their terrific effort, which was reflected in this legislation and in many other matters with which the committee deals.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alabama is recognized.

Mr. SHELBY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the vote occur on passage of the bill on Wednesday—tomorrow—with no intervening action or debate, at a time determined by the majority leader, after consultation with the Democratic leader. Further, I

ask unanimous consent that following that vote, the Senate insist on its amendment, request a conference with the House, and the Chair be authorized to appoint conferees on the part of the Senate, with a ratio of 4 to 3. I also ask unanimous consent that S. 1753 then be returned to the calendar.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. COLEMAN). Without objection, it is so ordered.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT
AGREEMENT—H.R. 2673

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that following morning business on Wednesday, the Senate proceed to the consideration of H.R. 2673, the Agriculture appropriations bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. REID. Mr. President, there is no objection. The persuasiveness of the chairman of the committee allays any fears Senator DASCHLE and I had of proceeding to this appropriations bill. We look forward to having as few amendments as possible. We hope to find out how many amendments we have even tonight. It would be good to get them to the cloakroom. We will be on this probably around 10:30 tomorrow morning.

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I echo what the assistant minority leader said in making that request. We know of some amendments that are out there. We believe we can finish the bill tomorrow if we apply ourselves to the task.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that I be allowed to speak as in morning business for as much time as I may consume.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

INTERNET TAX NON-
DISCRIMINATION ACT OF 2003

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, the distinguished occupant of the chair and I are new Members of the Senate. There are a great many privileges to being here, and one is the congeniality

to new Members of the Senate. One is the seriousness of the issues with which we deal these days. One is the great traditions in the Senate. But there is a very special privilege of being here, and being here tonight, which I realize, and that is this: Every single one of us as Americans someday, sometime, while sitting at home or on our job, may suddenly realize something about our Government that really stirs us up and we wish we could say something and do something that somebody would hear. We are angry about it, we are upset about it, we want to say something about it. I have a privilege as a Member of the Senate of being able to do just that tonight.

Nothing used to make me more upset as the Governor of Tennessee for the 8 years I was Governor than when Members of this distinguished body and the other distinguished body—Members of Congress—would get together and come up with some great idea and pass a law and tell us to do it, and then send us the bill requiring us to pay for it, even though they were printing money up here and we were balancing budgets at home.

The distinguished occupant of the Chair was mayor of a great city for 8 years, I believe, the same amount of time as I was Governor. I know he must have felt the same way.

It might have been the case in terms of storm water runoff. Somebody in Washington, like the EPA, the Environmental Protection Agency, in that case may have said sometimes when it really rains hard, the water gets mixed up with the sewage and it runs into the river, so we need to fix that situation.

Great idea, but who is going to pay the bill? I tell you who pays the bill. In Minneapolis, you have to raise the property tax, or in Nashville, you have to raise the sales tax. Or in Maryville, TN, you have to fire some teachers so you have enough money to do the storm water runoff.

I remember back in the mid-1970s, about the time I was getting into politics, the Members of Congress decided we needed to help children with disabilities. We are all for that. That is a wonderful idea. But at the time, the Federal Government was paying, as it is today, about 7 percent of all the costs of elementary and secondary education in America. Most of that is paid for by Minnesota and Tennessee taxpayers through income taxes, and sales taxes, and property taxes that are raised at home.

The Congress said, "Help the children with disabilities," but they didn't pay the bill. So what happens. I meet with the Shelby County School Board in Memphis. What do they say to me? We have this huge, terrific cost and these orders from Washington and regulations about what to do, and then we have to take money we raise, that we would otherwise be spending for other purposes, and deal with the good idea from Washington, DC.

I have heard many Members of this body talk a little bit about No Child